

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/691,855

Examiner

Farhan M. Syed

Applicant(s)

STARBUCK ET AL.

Art Unit

2165

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/30/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9, 11-13 and 25.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-9, 11-13, and 25 are pending.
2. Applicant's amendments and arguments filed on 19 December 2007 have been fully considered and they are deemed to be persuasive.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. Authorization for Examiner's Amendment to the amendment filed 19 December 2007 was given by Mr. John Bacocho (Reg. No. 59,890) and Mr. Thomas Bonacci (Reg. No. pending) in a telephone interview on 10 January 2008.

4. An examiner's amendment to the amendment filed 19 December 2007 appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

5. The application has been amended as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method in ~~in~~ a computer environment system that is network connectable along with one or more other computer environments systems to a computer network system, the method for registering a message application to have primary control of a message folder space, the message

application being one of a plurality of message applications, the method comprising:

- an act of an operating system receiving a folder registration request from a message application;

- an act of the operating system determining that a folder silo has resources available to satisfy the folder registration request;

- an act of the operating system allocating a folder space within the folder silo to satisfy the folder registration request;

- an act of the operating system maintaining an indication that the message application has primary control of the allocated folder space such that other message applications can be made aware that the message application has primary control of the allocated folder space, maintaining an indication comprising an act of updating an external list that tracks which message folders are allocated to which message application;

- the operating system analyzing the current arrangement of the folder silo to determine when if a second message application of the plurality of message applications is currently registered for the name space of the folder registration request; and

- upon determining that the second message application is already registered for the name space of the folder registration request, the operating system returning an appropriate signal to the message application having send the folder registration request.

10. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for use in a computer environment ~~system~~ that is network connectable along with one or more other computer environments ~~systems~~ to a computer network, the computer program product for implementing a method for registering a message application to have primary control of a message folder space, the computer program product comprising one or more computer-readable storage media having stored thereon computer executable instructions that, when executed by a processor, causes one or more computer processors to perform the method of claim 1.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 1-9, 11-13, and 25, and now renumbered as claims 1-13 are allowed over the prior art of record.

Reasons For Allowance

7. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding independent claims 1 and 11, the closest prior art, Shuman et al. (U.S. Patent 6,708,202 B1), discloses organizing electronic messages and automatically extracting and highlighting information contained in an electronic

message. The prior art of record does disclose a particular method and computer program product of an act of an operating system receiving a folder registration request from a message application; an act of the operating system determining that a folder silo has resources available to satisfy the folder registration request; an act of the operating system allocating a folder space within the folder silo to satisfy the folder registration request. However, the prior art of record fails to disclose, made obvious over, or fairly suggest an act of the operating system maintaining an indication that the message application has primary control of the allocated folder space such that other message applications can be made aware that the message application has primary control of the allocated folder space, maintaining an indication comprising an act of updating an external list that tracks which message folders are allocated to which message application; the operating system analyzing the current arrangement of the folder silo to determine when a second message application of the plurality of message applications is currently registered for the name space of the folder registration request; and upon determining that the second message application is already registered for the name space of the folder registration request, the operating system returning an appropriate signal to the message application having send the folder registration request was not disclosed by, would not have been obvious over, nor would have been fairly suggested by the prior art of record. Furthermore, in the telephonic phone conversation with the attorneys of record on 10 January 2007, the applicant confirmed that the term "appropriate signal" should not be construed as

a carrier wave, as the applicant's disclosure fails to disclose such types of signal that would render the claims as non-statutory subject matter under 35 U.S.C. §101.

The dependent claims, being further limiting to the independent claims, definite and enabled by the specification are also allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Farhan M. Syed whose telephone number is 571-272-7191. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christian Chace can be reached on 571-272-4190. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/FMS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Chace', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

CHRISTIAN CHACE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100